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Convention on the Rights of the Child

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Committee on the Rights of the Child
Seventy-sixth session
11-29 September 2017
Item 4 of the provisional agenda
Consideration of reports of States parties

List of issues in relation to the report submitted by Vanuatu under article 12 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

The State party is requested to submit in writing additional, updated information (10,700 words maximum), if possible before 16 June 2017. The Committee may take up all aspects of children's rights set out in the Optional Protocol during the dialogue with the State party.

1. Please provide updated statistical data disaggregated by sex, age, nationality, ethnic origin, socioeconomic background and geographic location (whether urban or rural) on the number of:

(a) Cases of sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as information on action taken in those cases, particularly with regard to the prosecution of perpetrators;

(b) Children who have received assistance for their physical and psychological rehabilitation, reintegration and compensation.

2. Please indicate whether the State party plans to adopt a specific plan of action concerning the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

3. Please provide updated information on the measures taken to systematically raise awareness of the Optional Protocol among the general public, among professionals who work with or for children and among children themselves.

4. Please provide updated information on the human, financial and technical resources specifically allocated and spent for the implementation of the Optional Protocol.

5. Please provide updated information on the measures taken to address the root causes of offences under the Optional Protocol, in particular traditional customs such as betrothal of young girls and exchange of children. Please also clarify whether mechanisms exist to detect and identify children at risk of becoming victims of the offences under the Optional Protocol.

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6. Please provide updated information on whether the current legislation prohibits all offences under the Optional Protocol. Please provide information on any plans to amend the Penal Code in that regard.

7. Please provide information on what specific measures have been taken to combat the sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution, child pornography, trafficking in children and traditional customs involving the sale of children in northern Tanna. Please also provide an update on the State party's cybercrime policy.

8. Please clarify whether legislation establishes the State party's extraterritorial jurisdiction over all the offences in the Optional Protocol. Please provide information on whether the Optional Protocol may be used as a legal basis for the extradition of a person suspected of committing any of the offences covered by the Optional Protocol in the absence of a bilateral extradition treaty.

9. Please provide updated information on the measures taken by the State party to ensure that child victims of the offences covered by the Optional Protocol are not stigmatized and have access to efficient, appropriate and long-term programmes and support systems to facilitate their reintegration and their physical and mental rehabilitation.